

-- CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

al This application is a national stage application under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of international application PCT/EP00/08175 filed on August 22, 2000, the international application not being published in English. This application also claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 to DE 199 41 450.5 filed on August 31, 1999.

On page 1, on a separate line after the above inserted paragraph and before line 1, please insert the following header:

a2 -- BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION -- .

On page 2, on a separate line between lines 24 and 25, please insert the following header:

a3 --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

On page 2, on a separate line between lines 29 and 30, please insert the following header:

a4 -- DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION --.

On page 30, line 1, please delete the heading "CLAIMS" and insert therefor:

-- What is claimed is: --

On a separate page, after page 31, please insert the enclosed Abstract of the Disclosure.

In the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1 to 17, without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims: